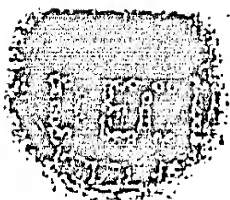


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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR LILLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL: DADR
TAGS: PREL, CH
SUBJECT: A BEIJING STOPOVER

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. RUMORS CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE IN BEIJING (AND I UNDERSTAND IN WASHINGTON) THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING A STOPOVER IN BEIJING ON YOUR WAY TO OR FROM ULAANBAATAR. THE CHINESE WOULD BE PLEASED IF YOU COULD DO THIS (VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LIU HUAQIU RAISED IT WITH ME TWICE LAST WEEK) AND IT COULD BE USEFUL FOR THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP AND PERHAPS FOR CHINESE COOPERATION ON CAMBODIA AND MISSILE SALES. OF COURSE, I WOULD PERSONALLY BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU HERE IF YOU DECIDE TO COME.

3. HOWEVER, AFTER THINKING ABOUT SUCH A TRIP AT SOME LENGTH, I BELIEVE THE TIMING MAY NOT BE RIGHT. IT WOULD REWARD THE CHINESE WITH A HIGH LEVEL VISIT WHEN THEY WOULD SETTLE FOR LESS AND WOULD ALSO SEND THE WRONG SIGNAL TO OUR ALLIES WHO HAVE BEEN PROCEEDING MORE CAUTIOUSLY, AND TO CONGRESS. YOU, OF COURSE, ARE SECRET
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A BETTER JUDGE OF THESE THAN I AM, BUT I HAVE READ THE

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CRITICAL EDITORIALS AND MITCHELL'S UNHELPFUL BILL.

5. IT IS MY VIEW THAT IN DEALING WITH THE CHINESE, OUR ALLIES, AND CONGRESS, WE SHOULD FOR NOW STAY NEAR THE CENTER OF THE PACK IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE, NOT OUT FRONT. THE JAPANESE ARE COMING BACK IN FORCE AND KAIFU IS REPORTEDLY EVEN CONSIDERING AN ASIAN GAMES TRIP. ROH TAI-WU OF KOREA IS ALSO ANGLING TO COME TO THE GAMES, BUT MOST OF THE EUROPEANS, THE AUSTRALIANS AND THE CANADIANS SEEM FAR LESS ANXIOUS.

6. I BELIEVE THE RIGHT TIME FOR YOU TO VISIT WOULD
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BE LATER IN THE FALL -- PERHAPS JUST BEFORE THE BIG EVENTS IN EUROPE LATE IN THE YEAR. IN THE MEANTIME, WE SHOULD WORK UP TO THAT LEVEL WITH THE CHINESE BY HAVING RICHARD SOLOMON, ROBERT KIMMITT, OR IVAN SELIN COME, BY ENCOURAGING CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO VISIT OR SEND DELEGATIONS DURING THE AUGUST RECESS (WE HAVE HAD ONE SENATOR -- RUDMAN -- AND ONE CONGRESSMAN -- FEIGHAN -- ALL YEAR), AND BY CONSIDERING A TRIP BY CLAYTON YEUTTER OR BOB MOSBACHER WHICH COULD BE CAST IN A MORE TECHNICAL, LESS

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POLITICAL LIGHT THAN ONE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

7. NEEDLESS TO SAY, SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO COME
IN ANY EVENT, WE AND THE CHINESE WILL SPARE NO
EFFORT TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS.
LILLEY

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